

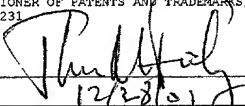
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of) Examiner:
Ellen M. Troyer, et al.)
Division of:)
Serial No. 09/725,608) File No. 573-1
Filed: November 29, 2000)
For: TREATMENT OF DRY EYE SYNDROME) San Francisco, California
)

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In the Specification

Insert on page 1 after "Background of the Invention":

--This application is a division of
application Serial No. 09/725,608, filed
November 29, 2000, now _____.--

A clean copy of page 1 is enclosed.

In the Claims

CANCEL claims 1-21, leaving claims 22-28 for examination in
this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: December 28, 2001

APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES PATENT

TREATMENT OF DRY EYE SYNDROME

*Clean Copy
of page 1
as amended.*

S P E C I F I C A T I O N

Background of the Invention

This application is a division of application Serial No. 09/725,608, filed November 29, 2000, now _____.

This invention concerns generally the treatment of disease, and more particularly the treatment of human glandular function disorders involving oil and mucus secreting glands and/or tear secreting (lacrimal) glands leading to dryness in the eyes, mouth or other areas.

Dry-eye syndrome is a common condition affecting approximately one in five Americans. It is characterized by symptoms including dry, irritated eyes, excessively watery eyes, burning and stinging, a foreign body sensation, and blurred vision. Despite the diverse causes of dry eye syndrome, in all dry eye conditions the ocular surface epithelium undergoes squamous metaplasia, manifested by loss of goblet cells, mucin deficiency and keratinization. These changes result in tear film instability, which leads to the clinical symptoms of dry eye

PCT/US2001/020097

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